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February, 3, 2000

Mr. M.M. Underwood, Jr.
Director of Physical Resources
U.S. Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Region
P.O. Box 25127
Lakewood, CO 80225-0127

Dear Mr. Underwood:

This is in response to your January 26, 2000 (received February 2) request for information on locatable mineral resources in a land exchange proposal in which Elk Mountain Resort has offered certain non-Federal lands within the Uncompahgre National Forest in exchange for Federal lands also within the Uncompahgre National Forest.

In accordance with the working agreement under Public Law 86-509, we are providing you with a report on the locatable mineral resources on the lands described in "Exhibits A and B", included with your request. These lands comprise 7.6 acres, more or less, in Ouray County, Colorado.

Sincerely yours,

Anna B. Wilson, Geologist
Mineral Resources Program, Central Region

Copies: W.D. Day
 E.A. duBray

LOCATABLE MINERAL REPORT FOR THE
ELK MOUNTAIN RESORT LAND EXCHANGE OFFER,
UNCOMPAHGRE NATIONAL FOREST,
OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO

By
Anna B. Wilson
U.S. Geological Survey

February 3, 2000

The following report is based on information contained in USGS mineral resource and commodity files, mineral information databases (MRDS and MAS), and on reports and maps available in the USGS library. These data are occasionally augmented with unpublished documents, personal communications, and professional experiences. No field studies or on-site visits were performed in preparing this report. Emphasis is primarily on locatable mineral resources. Leasable and salable resources are covered only if they appear in the above documents. Mineral resource assessments are subjective: the opinions expressed herein are entirely those of the author.

For the legal location description of lands considered for exchange, refer to Exhibits A and B in Attachment A.

Non-Federal and Federal

Government Springs 1:24,000 quadrangle; Montrose 1:100,000 and 1:250,000 quadrangles

Both the Federal and adjacent Non-Federal parcels are in an area underlain by Lower Cretaceous Dakota Sandstone and Burro Canyon Formation (Day and others, 1999). The entire area is well removed from any historic mining activity (Wilson and Crane, USGS, unpublished data; USGS, 1999a, b). Neither parcel has any known or expected mineral resource potential.

REFERENCES:

Day, W.C., Green, G.N., Knepper, D.H., Jr., and Phillips, R.C., 1999, Spatial geologic data model for the Gunnison, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre National Forests Mineral resource assessment area, southwestern Colorado and digital data for the Leadville, Montrose, Durango, and the Colorado parts of the Grand Junction, Moab, and Cortez 1° X 2° geologic maps: U.S. Geological Survey Open File Report 99-427 [CD-ROM].

U.S. Geological Survey, 1999a, Mineral Resource Data System [MRDS: active computer file; data available from U.S. Geological Survey, Mineral Resources Program, Building 20, Denver Federal Center, Denver CO 80225].

U.S. Geological Survey, 1999b, Minerals Availability System [MAS: active computer file; data available from U.S. Geological Survey, Minerals Information Team (formerly U.S. Bureau of Mines), Building 20, Denver Federal Center, Denver CO 80225].

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Exhibits A and B (provided by U.S. Forest Service)
- B. Geologic map of the Elk Mountain Resort exchange area showing approximate locations of Federal and Non-Federal land exchange parcels.